

Beach Commission Minutes- Meeting of 2/12/2013

Attending: Rian Wilkinson, John Bagwill, Bill Seiple, John Crimmins, Henry Pine, Dave Leys

1. Open meeting at 4:33pm

2. Approved minutes with 2 changes: 3a) change..."opening" to "path", 3b) last sentence to read...However, since this could be a beach budget item or, possibly, a fee increase to the campground, it was decided this should be an administrative decision.

3. Introduced new BC member Henry Pine

4. Report..Beach Building Advisory Commission ... John Crimmins

This commission is exploring a new concept...including

a. Constructing a storage building in the vicinity of the town's pump station...Paradise Ave. This would eliminate most of the, unsightly, trailers that, currently, are adjacent to the present beach facility.

b. Construct a second building in the far end of the West parking lot. (St. George's side of the lot). This would include restrooms, changing facilities, showers, concession and, possibly, a small office.

c. Redesign the exterior of the present beach facility.

d. There was a discussion concerning elevations, past "foot prints", and function of a building at the West end of the lot. Also some ideas were exchanged concerning the existing building including; a larger deck area and extending the building by using the present walkways around the building. It is unknown if the state would allow building extensions over the walkways, or if the building could, actually, support such structural changes.

5. Project list:

Briefly discussed the path from the Gazebo to the West side of the main lot...It is, currently, an uneven pile of dirt and, virtually, impossible to use with beach paraphernalia. The other option is to climb over the guard rail...with children, toys, etc.

6. Town memorial- gift policy

Rian notified the Beach Commission that the town is in the process of developing a defined process for accepting gifts or memorials. In the beach's case, these may include picnic tables, benches or equipment needed by staff. Appropriateness and maintenance costs would be factors to consider. An on-line town "clearing house" might be a future consideration. Needs could be listed on the town's web site and prospective donors could apply and receive approval from the town.

7. New Business

a. Telephone poles Second Beach

Shawn Brown emailed Rian and reported that the cost of removing the telephone poles, on the NFW portion of the Second Beach road, was not included in the Reconstruction budget.

Dave Leys reported that he had heard that there may be a co-operative effort between private groups and the Aquidneck Land Trust to remove the poles. He said there was a scheduled article in 2/13 Newport Daily News that would give more information.

b. Tuckerman Path...Rian reviewed emails he has recently received

on this topic.

DEM should have complete control of the property, in the very near future, and construction should happen very quickly after that happens.

The Middletown Open Space and Field Committee has recommended a scenic Vista/ Overlook, which would entail clearing approximately, 8.5 acres. There was concern from Rep. Linda Finn that removing more than 50% of the vegetation could lead to more studies involving Storm Water issues (CRMC). Rep Finn suggested that all parties try to meet before a final plan is formulated.

c. Meeting...the March meeting, as agreed, has been moved up to 3/5/2013. Unless notified, all future meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at the MPD Meeting room, 4:30pm .

Meeting adjourned 5:52pm.